

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

McKEARNEY et al.

Serial No. **Unknown**

Atty. Ref.: **36-1558**

Group: **175**

National Phase of: **PCT/GB00/04149**

International Filing Date: **27 October 2000**

Filed: **March 27, 2002**

Examiner: **J. W. W.**

For: **ACCESSING DATABASES**

* * * * *

March 27, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

~~Page 1, after the title insert the following:~~

~ This application is the US national phase of international application

A1 PCT/GB00/04149 filed October 27, 2000 which designated the U.S. ~

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

4. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 wherein the selector is configured

A2 Cnt^t to select a preferred data service according to a pre-determined selection strategy.